

SQHAS. 41

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P. 9898

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE



ANNUAL · REPORT

Carnegie · House · 117 · Piccadilly · W1

1st April, 1928, to 31st December, 1928.

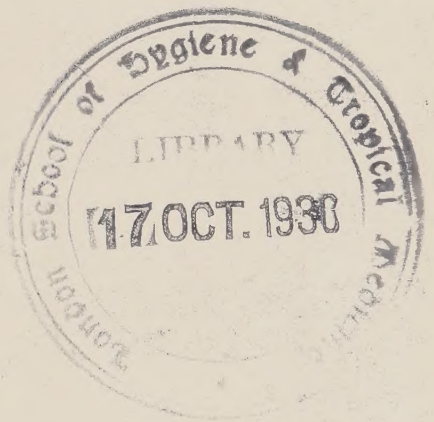
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First Half of the Child Welfare Travelling Exhibition at the International
Exhibition of Housing and Social Progress held in Paris, 1928.

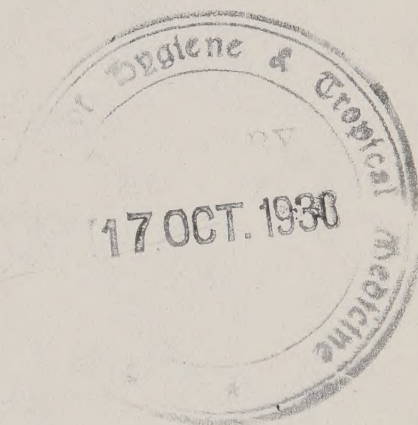
National Council for Maternity and Child Welfare.

(In which is included the National League for
Health, Maternity and Child Welfare)

(INCORPORATED 1919.)



Under the auspices of the
Joint Council of the British
Red Cross Society and Order
of St. John.



CONSTITUENT BODIES

Association of Infant Welfare and Maternity Centres.

Central Council for the Care of Cripples.

Incorporated Midwives' Institute.

Institute of Infant Welfare Fund.

Invalid Children's Aid Association.

Mothercraft Training Society (Babies of the Empire).

National Association for the Prevention of Infant Mortality.

National Baby Week Council.

National Council for the Unmarried Mother and Her Child.

National Health Society.

National Institute for the Blind (Blind Babies' Department).

National Society of Day Nurseries.

State Children's Association.

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE

CARNEGIE HOUSE, 117, PICCADILLY, LONDON,
W. 1.

Office Hours : 9.30-5.30 p.m.

Telephone : Grosvenor 1420.

Vice-President :

H.R.H. PRINCESS BEATRICE.

Chairman of the Council :

†*THE HON. SIR ARTHUR STANLEY, G.B.E., C.B., M.V.O.

Chairman of the Executive Committee :

*PROFESSOR E. W. HOPE, O.B.E., M.D., D.Sc.

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Secretary : Miss O. MOFFATT.

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Hon. Solicitors :

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8, Iddesleigh House,
Caxton Street, S.W.

Bankers :

The Westminster Bank, Ltd., 65, Piccadilly, W.1.

COUNCIL

1st July, 1928—30th June, 1929.

Representing the Joint Council, Order of St. John and B.R.C.S.—

†*The Hon. Sir Arthur Stanley,
G.B.E., C.B., M.V.O.
F. N. Kay Menzies, Esq.,
M.D., F.R.C.P.E., D.P.M.

Mrs. Blount, O.B.E.
*The Hon. Mrs. St. Aubyn
*Dame Sarah Swift,
G.B.E., R.R.C.

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*Miss March, B.Sc.
Miss Margaret Beavan, J.P., C.C.

Mrs. H. B. Irving.
†Mrs. W. Joseph.

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A. H. Wood, Esq., C.B.

†*Miss C. I. Daniel, M.A.
Mrs. Townsend.
The Lady Beatrix Wilkinson.

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Mrs. Turner.

†Miss Wakeman

Representing the Institute of Infant Welfare Fund—

The Lady Cynthia Colville.

Miss Horn.

†The Right Hon. H. T. Baker.

Representing the Invalid Children's Aid Association—

Sir Charters Symonds.

†Miss M. E. Broadbent.

Sir Alfred Fripp,

*Miss M. Jessel.

K.C.V.O., F.R.C.S., C.B., M.S.

*Mrs. Munro.

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The Lady Dawson of Penn.

The Hon. Mrs. Rhodes.

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†*Miss Halford, O.B.E.

G. F. Still, Esq., F.R.C.P., M.D.

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†*Dr. Sophia S. Friel,

Professor H. R. Kenwood,

M.D., B.S., D.P.H.

C.M.G., M.B., C.M., D.P.H.

*Miss Nancy Williams.

Eric Pritchard, Esq.,

The Right Rev. H. Russell

M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P.

Wakefield, D.D.

Representing the National Council for the Unmarried Mother and Her Child—

Mrs. H. A. L. Fisher

†*Miss Musson.

*Mrs. Arthur Whitting.

Representing the National Health Society—

†Dr. Mary Pilliet, M.B.

Mrs. Stephen Winkworth.

Representing the National Institute for the Blind (Blind Babies' Dept.)—

Mrs. Tydeman, M.B.E.

Representing the National Society of Day Nurseries—

*The Lady Lawrence, C.B.E.

Alexander L. Howard, Esq., J.P.

†The Viscountess Erleigh.

The Hon. Mrs. Eustace Hills.

Representing the State Children's Association—

The Right Hon. Lord Stanmore.

The Rt. Hon. Sir Albert Spicer,
Bart.

Dame Henrietta Barnett, D.B.E.

†*J. A. Lovat Fraser, Esq.

†*The Lady Sydenham.

*Also members of Executive Committee.

†Also members of Finance Committee.

SUMMARY OF OBJECTS.

(a) To co-ordinate and assist the work of the various national and local voluntary organisations concerned in the care of motherhood, infancy and childhood.

(b) To assist in the establishment and maintenance of such residential institutions as the Constituent Bodies may from time to time find necessary.

(c) To promote a standardisation of training for social welfare workers in connection with motherhood, infancy and childhood.

9th Annual Report of the National Council for Maternity and Child Welfare.

1st April, 1928, to 31st December, 1928.

FOREWORD.

THIS Report which is the first issued under the title "The National Council for Maternity and Child Welfare," covers a period of nine months dating from April 1st to December 31st, 1928; during which time the Central Council having undergone considerable changes in its Constitution, has emerged under a new name to go forward with renewed vigour and closer-co-operation between its Constituent Societies.

I would like at this point to acknowledge the action of the National League for Health, Maternity and Child Welfare, which in order to prevent overlapping and confusion in the mind of the Public, agreed to wind up. It required no little self-sacrifice to yield up its entity and allow itself to become merged in another body. This, however, it has done for the benefit and furtherance of Maternity and Child Welfare work as a whole, and the National Council fully appreciates its generous action.

As will be seen from the list of Council Members at the beginning of the Report, the Constituent Societies now have fuller representation. Special Sub-Committees have been formed and are actively engaged on their various duties.

The Quarterly Reports of the Constituent Societies which are circulated to members of the Executive Committee also help to bring the Societies closer together by increasing their knowledge of each others' work.

Before going further into the work during the nine months covered by this Report, the Council has to express its thanks to Professor E. W. Hope, who has found time to guide the activities of the Executive Committee by becoming its Chairman. Dr. Hope is so well known to all workers connected with Maternity and Child Welfare that he needs no introduction. His position while Medical Officer for Liverpool, and in connection with the University of Liverpool has brought him in touch with many aspects of the work and those connected with it. His

deep knowledge of the subject is of inestimable value to the National Council.

The outlook for the future as regards co-operation and extension of the work is hopeful; there is still, however, some anxiety in the minds of those responsible for its finance. Very soon now—at the end of 1930—the National Council will no longer have the Annual Grant from the Joint Council of Order of St. John and the British Red Cross Society, and will have to find an annual income of about £2,000. This position was not unexpected, but until a satisfactory scheme of co-ordination and re-organisation was approved, no steps could be taken to appeal for Funds.

It is difficult to over-estimate the value to the Constituent Societies of being together under one roof, having the advantage of Committee rooms and Lecture Hall, at a rental which does not cover the cost of upkeep. This, however, the National Council looks upon as a contribution to the work of its Constituent Societies in Carnegie House. The advantage to the Public of finding such a large proportion of Maternity and Child Welfare Societies, whose associations, activities and interests extend over the whole of the United Kingdom, with headquarters in one building instead of occupying isolated offices scattered all over London, is obvious, and it is hoped that sufficient funds will be forthcoming to enable the Carnegie Trustees to allow the National Council to remain at Carnegie House.

Details of the Council's work appears elsewhere in this Report, and show satisfactory progress. I would like to call special attention to the work of the Travelling Exhibition, which does such valuable educational and propaganda work.

ARTHUR STANLEY, *Chairman.*

National Council for Maternity and Child Welfare.

REPORT.

IN addition to the re-organisation of the National Council and the formation of new Committees the National Council has carried on its usual activities, and has been represented at many Conferences and Meetings, among which are the following:— 14th Annual Conference of the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, Westminster Housing Association, National Conference on Maternity and Child Welfare, Social Service Congress, Paris, and Meetings of Children's Folk, Central Council for Health Education, Maternal Mortality Committee.

The Executive Committee which is formed of two representatives from each of the Constituent Societies resident in Carnegie House meets every month to consider the recommendations of its various Sub-Committees and any other important business.

Exhibitions Sub-Committee.

On this Committee a representative from each of the Constituent Bodies sits to advise on all matters concerning Exhibitions. (An account of the work of the Travelling and Permanent Exhibitions is given on another page).

Publications and Library Sub-Committee.

This Sub-Committee advises on all Publications issued by the National Council other than those issued by the Constituent Societies and on matters connected with the Library and Journal.

The National Council felt that it should definitely take up as part of its work the provision of a Library at Carnegie House. There was ready as a nucleus the Library of the National League which has been taken over and placed in the Lecture Hall. The Association of Infant Welfare and Maternity Centres has very kindly consented to be responsible for conducting it on behalf of the National Council with the help of a Voluntary Worker. It is hoped that only a small subsidy will be required from the Council to enable the Library to be kept up-to-date. A Catalogue will be issued shortly, and it is hoped to supplement this by the issue of special bibliographies from time to time.

The Journal "Maternity and Child Welfare" has now been the official organ of the Council for eight years, and has carried out its allotted task of forming a link between various national organisations working for the welfare of mother and child. Some of these have continued to issue very useful journals of their own, but outside the circle of Carnegie House the Council's official organ has been increasingly recognised as its mouth-piece, and as tangible evidence of the reconciling influence which brought the Council into being.

The Council has undertaken no financial responsibility for "Maternity and Child Welfare" other than a contribution for the cost of printing in the journal the annual report of the Council and regular accounts of the activities of the Societies and Federations represented upon it.

Much space was devoted to such events as the National Conference on Maternity and Child Welfare, the Winter School

for Health Visitors, and the important Conferences on Maternal Mortality held at the Central Hall, Westminster, and the journal has kept up the practice of printing each month a leading article on the child welfare topic nearest to the centre of public interest, illustrated by a cartoon from the pen of a well-known artist. Many of the earlier cartoons by the late Mr. Byam Shaw and Miss E. F. Brickdale have been widely reprinted, and a request to copy the cartoon of the month is often received from other journals, when of course permission is readily granted. Apart from these special features, "Maternity and Child Welfare" is the only journal edited by a member of the medical profession and devoted exclusively to matters concerning the welfare of mothers and young children, and its scope is a wide one, no issue, medical or social, which is likely to present problems to the child welfare worker being considered alien to its purpose. Dr. W. C. Budden's "Popular Fallacies" again provided practical teaching in a racy form, and other contributors of original articles included such names as Dr. C. C. Okell, Dame Louise McIlroy, Dr. Norman Capon, Dr. Ethel Cassie, Dr. A. J. Shinnie, and Dr. P. W. L. Camps. Child Welfare papers in America and India have admittedly based their style of publication on the Council's journal.

The circulation of the journal is gratifying, although naturally it does not compare in numbers with journals which are distributed to all the members of a Society or Association as being included in their membership subscription. Those who advertise in the journal recognise that every copy sold means a careful and interested reader, and actually subscribers are world-wide. The annual subscription is 10/6 post free, and application forms may be obtained direct from the publishers, Messrs. John Bale, Sons and Danielsson, Ltd., 83-91, Great Titchfield Street, London, W.1., or from the National Council for Maternity and Child Welfare, 117, Piccadilly, London, W.1.

House Sub-Committee.

The House Committee meets regularly once a month and advises on all matters connected with the upkeep of the Building, the letting of Offices, Committee Rooms, and Lecture Hall, and with the House Staff. It also supervises all House expenditure.

It became necessary to repaint Carnegie House both inside and out and this heavy expense was defrayed by the kind permission of the Carnegie Trustees out of a reserve fund set aside by them for special expenditure when they bought the lease of 117, Piccadilly.



Second Half of the Child Welfare Travelling Exhibition at the International
Exhibition of Housing and Social Progress held in Paris, 1928.

During the nine months covered by this Report, 67 Meetings, Lectures, Sales of Work, etc., have been held in the Lecture Hall, which is proportionately a greater number than in other years. Particulars regarding fees, etc., for hire of Hall and Committee Rooms, may be obtained from the Secretary. The Committee Rooms also have been in great demand, about 500 Meetings being held during the nine months.

Finance Committee.

The Finance Committee meets once a month, considers financial requirements submitted to it by the Sub-Committees, and advises the National Council thereon. It presents quarterly a statement of accounts and estimate of expenditure. The Lady Sydenham in addition to acting as Honorary Treasurer has kindly consented to become Chairman of this Committee.

Grants.

The National Council gratefully acknowledge grants from the following:—

Joint Council of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem and the British Red Cross Society, towards the General Fund of the National Council for Maternity and Child Welfare.

The Carnegie Trustees for re-decoration of Carnegie House.

The Institute of Infant Welfare Fund for the Travelling and Permanent Exhibitions.

CHILD WELFARE TRAVELLING EXHIBITION.

1ST APRIL, 1928—31ST DECEMBER, 1928.

During the nine months the work of the Travelling Exhibitions has again increased and shows a very successful period, the outstanding feature being the visit to Paris. The two complete Travelling Exhibitions have been in great demand and the third small Exhibition has been of much assistance when, at very busy times a complete Exhibition is not available. During October we have also collected a number of small exhibits to send out to tide over this busy month of health weeks.

The Complete Exhibitions have visited the following places:

Derby—Health Week.

Malden—Essex Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

Warminster, Wilts—Maternity and Child Welfare Committee and Women's Institutes.

Cardiff—Health Week.

Llangollen, Wales—Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

Paris—International Exhibition of Housing and Social Progress.
 Petersfield—Baby Week (2nd visit).
 Bedford College—Summer School, International Red Cross
 Students.

York—Health Week.
 Shoreditch—Health Week (2nd visit).
 West Bromwich—Health Week.

Carmarthen
 Pencader
 Llandovery
 Llansawl
 Ammandford

Tour in Carmarthenshire.

Ipswich—Health Week (3rd visit).
 Ashford, Kent—Health Week (3rd visit).
 Leyton—Health Week.

The Small Exhibition without a lecturer in charge has
 visited :

Bingley Hall—(postgraduate Week).
 Fulham—Health Week.
 Maidstone—Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.
 Bethnal Green—Health Week.
 Surbiton—Health Week.
 Bolton-upon-Deane—Health Week.
 Rhyl—Health Week.

Sections have been sent to :

Devon, Derby, Apsley, Staplehurst, Lowestoft, Warwick,
 Bradford, Exeter, Kensington, Southwark, Maltby, Wilnecote.

The places visited have included rural areas, towns, and
 county boroughs, all with equal success; many letters have been
 received showing appreciation of the exhibition and the lec-
 tures.

The results of the Exhibition are often far reaching, within
 a year of the visit to the Isle of Man His Excellency, The
 Lieut-Governor, Sir Claude Hill has written to say that four
 Infant Welfare Centres are opening, one already doing excel-
 lent work at Ramsey.

Orders for Exhibits.

In addition to the hire of the Exhibitions the sale of exhibits
 forms a considerable part of the exhibition work. About 400
 orders have been dealt with during the nine months, and a
 considerable time is taken in the assembling and despatching of
 these exhibits.

International Exhibition of Housing and Social Progress.

Paris, 17th June to 15th July.

One of the Travelling Exhibitions in charge of the Organizer represented Maternity and Child Welfare for Great Britain at this International Exhibition in Paris.

The arrangements made by the Exhibition Authorities enabled the exhibits to be shown to the best advantage. It was unanimously stated by visitors from many nations that the English Travelling Exhibition was unique, as it shewed in the most practical way the material necessary for Health Education.

Our stand was very much appreciated not only by the delegates, but also by the Paris public when, on Sundays, both fathers and mothers visited in large numbers to ask questions on infant care. Miss Eileen Keating, who assisted the Organizer as interpreter was indefatigable in explaining the exhibits to interested inquirers.

The Exhibition was opened by M. Loucheur, Ministre du Travail, and visited officially by the President of the Republic, M. Doumergue, both of whom paid a long visit to our stand showing intense interest in all the sections. A visitors' book was kept, and records signatures and remarks, in many languages, from representatives of nineteen different countries. The following extracts are typical of the appreciation of our stand:—

SWEDEN.—M. Von Koch, General Inspector, Child Welfare, Stockholm:

“Very interesting work, am going to start a similar exhibition in Sweden.”

FRANCE.—Dr. Rene Sand, League of Red Cross Societies:

“England has shown the world the way to health, and continues to be our leader on this road which leads to the Welfare and Progress of Mankind . . .” etc.

SWITZERLAND.—Dr. Adolf Keller, Institute for Social Research, Geneva:

“This exhibition is surely one of the most influential methods of Education.”

AMERICA.—Dr. Margold, Michigan:

“Am much impressed by the detail of the exhibition.”

HUNGARY.—Dr. Follman, Medical Officer of Health :

“The great hygienic movement inaugurated by Sir George Newman is not unknown before me. The exhibition is a sure picture of this splendid social work.”

AUSTRIA.—Dr. Hans Leonhartsbergen, National Health Officer :

“The Travelling Exhibition is especially instructive on account of the positive way of teaching.”

CZECHO-SLOVAKIA.—Dr. Varricell, State Institute of Public Health :

“I am going to copy many things I have seen here.”

Many inquiries were received with reference to the work of the Council and its constituent societies; the literature of the societies was greatly in demand.

Lists of inquirers interested in the different branches of the work were collected and sent to the constituent societies.

Our constituent societies, the British Red Cross and the Institute of Infant Welfare Fund very kindly gave grants towards the expenses which were fully justified by the success of the Exhibition.

Permanent Exhibition.

The small permanent collection has been moved from Room 8 to the ground floor. The posters in the lecture hall have had to be moved to make room for the library, but arrangements are in hand for rehangng the posters.

The Permanent Exhibition continues to be much appreciated by individual inquirers and groups of students including L.C.C. school children.

Institute of Infant Welfare Fund.

The trustees of this fund have most generously continued the grant of £100 in addition to the special grant of £20 for the exhibition in Paris. This donation has proved invaluable in providing new exhibits and in assisting to keep the exhibition clean and in constant repair. The wear and tear is very heavy and the fund is utilised to a very great extent for the necessary renewals and repairs to keep the Exhibition fresh and attractive wherever it is displayed.

Westminster Health Society Patterns.

The City of Westminster Health Society has presented to the Travelling Exhibitions the very valuable gift of all their rights for reprinting the patterns for infants' and children's clothing,

together with the printer's blocks, etc. Many thousands of these patterns have been sold through the Travelling Exhibitions and arrangements are being made for reprinting the Infant Layette and short-coating set which will be brought up to date.

Kathe Kruse Dolls.

The model baby doll resembling an infant in weight and movements was seen by the Organizer when the Travelling Exhibition represented Great Britain at the International Exhibition in Geneva 1925.

The doll was added to our exhibitions and has been universally admired. A number have been sold to Infant Welfare Centres and Local Education Authorities for Mothercraft lessons. The crude stiff-joined doll which can be put into water is fortunately being superceded. The handling, and not the sponging with water is the important lesson to learn. This cannot be correctly taught without a real baby, or a doll so resembling a baby that the weight and movements are correct. Here the "Dreamer" doll fulfils a real need.

The makers and importers of this doll have made a generous offer to allow the exhibitions to be the distributors of these dolls which were introduced into England by the Travelling Exhibitions. In addition the firm has kindly offered to contribute to the Travelling Exhibitions one shilling on the complete range of the Kathe Kruse dolls sold in Great Britain.

We are greatly indebted to our two devoted voluntary helpers, Miss Buck and Miss Tomlin. They are the ideal workers who come with absolute regularity and do anything that they are asked.

Exhibitions Sub-Committee.

This Committee has been formed representing the different societies and we have been fortunate in securing the services of The Lady Cynthia Colville as the Chairman of this Committee. The first meeting was held in December, 1928. Miss Keating, the Organizer to the Council, who has in the past been responsible for the Exhibitions was appointed Organizing Secretary to the Exhibitions Sub-Committee.

Meetings are to be held once a month to deal with all matters relating to Exhibition Work from Carnegie House.

The fact that the exhibitions have visited some places as often as three times; Ipswich having already booked for the fourth year in succession, shows the success of the Exhibitions.

For any authority not yet knowing the exhibitions the following information may be of interest.

Description of Exhibits.

The Child Welfare Travelling Exhibitions include the following sections :—

Clothing, including model garments for infants and young children; dolls dressed in miniature; model baby doll, etc.

Ante-Natal Section.

Breast Feeding Section.

Food Section, including menus for young children; vitamin exhibit; production of clean milk.

Care and Cure of Invalid and Cripple Children, including photographs of "before and after" cases; sunlight treatment for T.B. and rickets, etc.; educational work at special schools.

Day Nursery Section, with models of furniture; Montessori and educational apparatus; photographs; work of the Nursery Training Colleges.

Dental exhibit of casts, models, photographs, etc.

Chamber of Horrors—the common dangers and what to avoid.

Literature Stall.

Free Leaflets.

Lantern slides on sunlight, dental care and maternity and child welfare work, etc.

Illustrated posters and panels.

Material for draping the tables is included with the Exhibition but a suitable backing must be provided locally. This must be 5ft. above the top of the tables and sufficiently strong for the hanging of posters, charts, photographs, etc.

Space required.

The Travelling Exhibition requires a minimum of 150ft. in length of table with wall space behind, but in order to display all the exhibits to their full advantage, 200ft. is required. It will thus be seen that a large hall is necessary for the exhibition. It takes one-and-a-half days to arrange the exhibits and half-a-day to pack.

Lecturer.

The arrangement of the exhibits is difficult and exacting. Since each article has its allotted place, an intimate knowledge is required. The complete exhibitions are therefore never sent out without a lecturer in charge. The lectures to mothers, to the general public, to fathers and to school children form a very important branch of the Work of the Travelling Exhibition.

Charges for hire.

The hire of the exhibition, in charge of a lecturer, is :

£17 17s. 0d. for 1 week;

£10 10s. 0d. for half a week;

in addition to travelling and transport expenses and hospitality for the lecturer.

Grant from Ministry of Health.

The Exhibition is eligible for a 50 percent.grant if claimed by the local authority responsible for the maternity and child welfare work of the area.

The charges do not cover the cost of the exhibition. These are reduced to a minimum figure to enable the smaller places to hire the exhibitions.

Transport.

Each exhibition is packed into four large hampers weighing approximately seven hundredweights. These are accepted at a special rate by the railway companies if sent by passenger train in charge of a lecturer. The exhibitions are therefore quickly conveyed from place to place.

All enquiries regarding the Exhibitions should be made to

THE ORGANISER,

National Council for Maternity and Child Welfare,

117, Piccadilly, W.1.

ASSOCIATION OF INFANT WELFARE AND MATERNITY CENTRES.

Chairman : DR. ERIC PRITCHARD.

Vice-Chairmen : MRS. H. B. IRVING, MRS. DUNCAN HARRIS and
MISS E. BUNTING.

Hon. Secretaries : MISS J. HALFORD, O.B.E., and DR. MARGARET EMSLIE.

Assistant Hon. Secretary : MISS A. VERNET.

For the first time since its inception in 1911, at first as a Department of the National League for Physical Education and

Improvement, and subsequently as a constituent section of the National League for Health, Maternity and Child Welfare, the Association of Infant Welfare and Maternity Centres presents an account of certain activities hitherto carried out by the parent body, but for which the Association will henceforth assume full responsibility. These include the Babies' Home Department, the Infant Welfare Workers' Employment Bureau, the Publications Department, and the Individual Case Department.

These changes, involving heavy financial and other responsibility which the Association has not lightly undertaken, are necessitated by the voluntary liquidation, on December 31st, 1928, of the National League for Health, Maternity and Child Welfare, a pioneer health organisation, incorporated in 1905, with a fine record of fruitful services to the nation to its credit.* The Association can but hope to follow loyally in the footsteps of its parent body and to do all in its power to extend and consolidate the work which the latter has so worthily carried on for nearly a quarter of a century, fully conscious and appreciative of the trust reposed in it.

The growth of the Association was considerably speeded up during 1928, largely due to the fact that large groups of Centres at Manchester and in the rural district of Orsett were enrolled. The new members totalled 56 and the present membership stands at 1,237 local institutions and 39 individual members.

Before the National League went into voluntary liquidation, it paid off all its outstanding accounts for printing publications, etc., so the Association starts its publishing career with a clean slate, in addition to a small stock in hand.

During the year, the ninth edition of that hardy annual, "To Mothers and Fathers," made its appearance, thus bringing its total circulation up to over half a million copies.

The "Mother's Cookery Book" is now beginning to run it very close, while the weight cards and other record-keeping documents published for the benefit of the Centres, continue to be prime favourites. A new chapter on "Squint" was incorporated in "To Mothers and Fathers" and also issued as a separate leaflet at a cheap rate. A new and striking poster in black, red and white, on "The Dirty, Deadly, Dangerous Dummy," and a handbill reproduced from it in black and white, have both proved very popular. There is also in preparation a new booklet, "Talks on Health," consisting of the various talks sent in by health workers for the competition for the

* A Report for 1928 and Retrospect 1905-1928 will gladly be forwarded on application.

best one, as judged by a jury of Centre mothers in co-operation with a doctor. The material which this competition produced was of such a high standard that it proved possible to include in one volume all the talks submitted. It should be ready for publication early in 1929. The total number of publications sold during the year amounted to 344,970.

It is now sixteen years since the Association, with the help of the local Centres, drew up its second report on the then existing Centres, which only numbered 400. Although the main principles on which the first few hundred Centres were established have since then undergone very little change, their number has increased nearly tenfold, and the scope has widened considerably. It was thought opportune that in the year under review an attempt should be made by the Association to collect the material for a third report on the history and development of the movement. However, after careful preparation of the necessary questionnaire for issue to the Centres, in order to elicit the desired information, it was found that the task was both too formidable—the Centres, at any rate, would have been appalled at the number of questions asked—and somewhat unnecessary, if the Ministry of Health, which should already be in possession of the facts, could be induced to produce a report.

Convinced that there is an opening for Centres intended for mothers who can afford and who prefer to pay for advice given, the Association has devoted much time during the year to the preparation of a workable scheme for such a Centre, which it hopes to open, as an experiment, at 33, Lancaster Gate, Bayswater Road, W., early in 1929.*

Another subject which has engaged the attention of the Committee is the need to set up local panels of consultant gynaecologists and obstetricians, if any appreciable reduction in the present deplorably high maternal mortality and morbidity rate is to be effected. 160 Local Authorities have already organised such panels, or have appointed a consultant.

Few Bills introduced of recent years promise to have such far-reaching effects on the Maternity and Child Welfare movement as the Local Government Bill. The representatives of both municipal and voluntary Centres on the Executive Committee of the Association viewed the prospect, for so comparatively young a movement as this, with grave concern, and everything possible was done, but with little success, to secure

* The terms of membership and full particulars will gladly be forwarded on application.

the deletion of the Maternity and Child Welfare service from the Bill. It is well-known that the standard of work done is not everywhere as high as it might be, but there is nothing in the Local Government Bill to improve matters. The local Centres on the whole have ably backed up the Association in its protests against the Bill, by bringing all their influence to bear on their Members of Parliament. Some small concessions have been made in the preliminary stages of the Bill, and many promises given by the Minister of Health.

Sixty-five centres competed in 1928 for the National Mothercraft Competitions Challenge Shield. It was won by South West Ham, which, as in the case of Trinity Road, Birmingham, in 1927, secured the shield at the first attempt. The general standard of the work submitted was considered to be particularly high and it is gratifying to realise how great a part these competitions have played, since their inception in 1913, in improving the work and the record-keeping at the centres. There was also keen competition for the three Rhondda Mothercraft Challenge Shields for mothers attending Centres, and for the similar one for schoolgirls, all of whom had to answer a few simple questions in mothercraft. The usual non-competitive examinations for mothers were also held.

The Infant Welfare Workers' Bureau is unique in that it deals only with people engaged in Child Welfare work, or requiring their services. It came almost spontaneously into being in January, 1917, when it was found that there was a growing demand for the services it could render. Since that date the work has greatly increased, and the help and advice of the Bureau in supplying workers and in suggesting training is more and more sought. In 1928, there were 734 vacancies registered, and the number of applicants seeking posts increased to 718.

Over and above the 250 children whose parents were helped during the year, through the five resident homes connected with the Association, hundreds of others are annually referred to the latter for assistance in a variety of ways. They have often been passed on from one Society to another, before reaching the out-stretched hands of the Association, for there are very few organisations that will deal with children under school age, who are usually far more difficult to place than school children. The register of individual cases so assisted shows no reduction as compared with previous years.

The Tired Mothers' Holiday Fund made grants for holidays (as apart from convalescence) to 30 mothers, specially recommended for such help by the centres which they attend.

The Babies' Homes Department, now transferred from the National League for Health, Maternity and Child Welfare to the Association of Infant Welfare and Maternity Centres, continues to control and finance the three Convalescent Homes for babies and toddlers, at Maidenhead, Basing and Arkley, costing at least £2,100 per annum to maintain. Towards this, £922/10/6 was received by the three Homes as fees paid by the parents or by the Infant Welfare Centres, through which all the children come. The Association has also assumed partial administrative responsibility for two other institutions, the Babies' Hotel and Nursery Training School, and the Creagh Nursery Training School, of both of which prospectuses will gladly be forwarded on application.

CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR THE CARE OF CRIPPLES.

April 1st—December 31st, 1928.

President: SIR ROBERT JONES, BART., K.B.E., C.B., F.R.C.S.

Vice-Presidents:

HER GRACE THE DUCHESS OF PORTLAND.

THE RT. HON. NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN, (*Minister of Health*)

THE RT. HON. H. A. L. FISHER.

THE RT. HON. SIR ARTHUR STEEL MAITLAND (*Minister of Labour*).

THE RT. HON. CHARLES TREVELYAN, M.P.

Chairman: THE HON. LADY LAWRENCE.

Vice-Chairman: A. H. WOOD, ESQ., C.B.

Hon. Treasurer: ERIC GORE-BROWNE, ESQ., D.S.O.

Secretary: MISS M. F. SHELLEY BARKER.

The Central Council for the Care of Cripples has seen many changes in its staff during the period under review. In July of this year, its Secretary, Miss Miller, retired from office and her place has since been filled by the appointment of Miss M. F. Shelley Barker. After the resignation of Miss D. Healing, Miss Ruth Holmes, who had previously acted as Assistant Secretary to the Central Council for over two years, kindly consented to help it again in this capacity until Christmas, when Miss M. M. Godfrey was appointed to this post.

Two new Sub-Committees have been formed during the year. A Local Schemes Sub-Committee appointed to deal with all questions arising in connection with local orthopædic schemes, has been engaged in making a systematic survey of orthopædic

work throughout the country. A record of the existing facilities for the vocational training of physically handicapped workers is also being prepared.

Through its Education Sub-Committee, the Central Council, in conjunction with the Board of Education, again organised for the third year in succession, a special course for teachers in Hospital Schools and Schools for Physically Defective Children. 100 applications were received for 40 available places showing how greatly these courses are appreciated.

As the outcome of a suggestion made by the Central Council, the Ministry of Pensions in July of this year, instructed its Local War Pensions Committee to notify the Central Council for the Care of Cripples of cases of cripples whose pensions were being continued after the age of 16 years. It is hoped that in this way the Central Council may be able to arrange for the necessary treatment and training of such cases while they are still in receipt of a pension.

The work of the Central Council since March, 1928, has included the preparation of two leaflets. One outlining the work of the Central Council was purposely written in French for use at the Paris Exhibition, but has since been translated and has proved most valuable for propaganda purposes. The second leaflet on "Local Associations" was prepared by the members of the Local Schemes Sub-Committee and since its formal adoption by the Council at the last meeting, has already proved of valuable assistance in those districts where the formation of a local orthopaedic schemes is contemplated. Copies of both these leaflets are obtainable on application to the Secretary of the Central Council for the Care of Cripples, at Carnegie House.

Three copies of the orthopaedic film "Arise and Walk" which was recently adopted by the Council, are now ready. It is the hope of the Central Council that those interested in the cause of the cripple may give the film as wide a publicity as possible by arranging for its display at Meetings, Conferences, or during Health Weeks. The film tells the story of individual cripples, and emphasises the human, rather than the technical side of the problem.

In October of this year the Central Council for the Care of Cripples accepted the kind offer of the "Linden Players" to give a Special Dramatic Performance of "The Prisoner of Zenda" in aid of the funds. This performance, which took place at the Scala Theatre, W.C.1, realised the satisfactory sum of £238/6/4.

INCORPORATED MIDWIVES' INSTITUTE.

FOUNDED 1881.

INCORPORATED 1889.

President : MISS E. M. PYE.

Hon. Treasurer : MISS R. PAGET.

Secretary : MISS E. SIMPSON.

The Institute has entered its 47th year since foundation, and 39th since incorporation. Under the Midwives' Acts 1902 and 1918, the Central Midwives' Board is the governing authority for all Midwives in England and Wales. The Midwives' Institute nominates three members of this Board as its representatives, one medical practitioner and two midwives. Dr. Fairbairn, Miss Pollard and Miss Doubleday were appointed for the year commencing April, 1929.

The Midwives' Institute works hard to encourage in every way Post Certificate Instruction for Midwives in practice. Midwives have been encouraged to ask their authorities for such instruction, and, in many cases, with satisfactory results, and in other cases the affiliated associations have themselves organised courses of Post Certificate instruction for their members. There have been Post Certificate lectures given at the Institute during April, May, June, October and November, also a three days' course in May for Teachers of Midwifery.

The Defence and Protection Committee (affiliated to the Institute) continues to do very useful work. The Associations were feeling the need of such help and their members can now join on becoming Members of the Institute at a reduced fee.

The Rainy Day Benevolent Fund to help members in temporary trouble is growing and is much appreciated as well as often needed.

Visits to help the Midwives in the country were made a possibility by the gift of the Central (now the National) Council in 1920. This money is now spent, but has been of the greatest use in helping the Institute to undertake work for the improvement, organisation and instruction of Midwives that could not otherwise have been financed.

Midwives who live too far away to benefit by the social and professional life of the Club still feel the advantage of belonging to an Institute where their interests are the first consideration, and the fact that they belong to a body to which they have a right to apply for help and advice in professional difficulties, strengthens that feeling of *esprit de corps* so necessary to the well-being of isolated workers.

The Institute watches over the interests of the certified midwife in every possible way, and is managed by midwives for midwives, a self-governing body of professional women.

During May, June, July, September and October, much time was spent in collecting evidence and preparing it for the Departmental Committee set up by the Ministry of Health to inquire into the working of the Midwives' Acts—Training and Supply of Midwives, etc.

We greatly regret that during the year we lost our President, Miss Ramsden, who died in August. She has been succeeded as President by Miss Pye, who is a Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur of France, and was Matron of the Maternity Hospital at Chalons-sur-Marne during the War.

"Nursing Notes and Midwives' Chronicle" (3d. a month, 4d. post free), is the organ of the Midwives' Institute, and publishes each month full information on matters of importance to certified midwives, especially in regard to their practice and the various Acts of Parliament which affect them. Reports of the Central Midwives' Board are published each month, also reports of the Midwives' Institute and its affiliated Associations.

THE INSTITUTE OF INFANT WELFARE FUND.

Trustees :

THE LADY CYNTHIA COLVILLE.
THE RIGHT HON. H. R. BAKER.
MISS HORN.

In view of the fact that educational and propaganda work can seldom be self-supporting, the Institute of Infant Welfare Fund is concerned with defraying, when possible, the cost of unexpected and extraordinary expenditure, and with enabling the Permanent and Travelling Exhibitions of the National Council for Maternity and Child Welfare to keep up to date and in a permanent state of freshness and good repair.

It is difficult to realise how great is the wear and tear of such an enterprise. The constant packing and unpacking, the exposure to dirt and dust on every occasion of exhibition, the necessity for continual cleaning of the clothing section, the frequent renewal required for photograph mounts and mounted posters and for the hampers themselves which contain the exhibits—all these conditions are responsible for oft recurring renovations that would hardly suggest themselves to a casual visitor to the Exhibition, which none-the-less depends for its attractiveness and teaching value precisely on these qualities of freshness and good order.

With these objects in view the Institute of Infant Welfare Fund made a grant last year for the cleaning and renewal of exhibits, and one for the purchase of additional items—a further allowance was made towards the expenses of the visit of the Travelling Exhibition to Paris, where it worthily upheld the prestige of British Health work.

INVALID CHILDREN'S AID ASSOCIATION.

FOUNDED 1888.

INCORPORATED 1907.

Patron :

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

President and Chairman of Council :

THE MOST HON. THE MARQUIS OF ABERDEEN AND TEMAIR,
K.T., G.C.M.G., K.C.V.O.

Executive Committee :

Chairman : SIR CHARTERS SYMONDS, K.B.E., C.B., M.S., F.R.C.S.

Vice-Chairman : SIR ALFRED FRIPP, K.C.V.O., C.B., M.S., F.R.C.S.

Hon. Treasurers : HON. VISCOUNT BURNHAM, G.C.M.G.

MISS BROADBENT.

Hon. Medical Officers : WALTER EDMUNDS, ESQ., F.R.C.S.

J. HOWELL EVANS, ESQ., M.D., M.Ch., F.R.C.S.

Secretary : MRS. MUNRO.

Golden Book Secretary : THE HON. LADY KEPPEL.

The two most outstanding events in the history of the Invalid Children's Aid Association during the last nine months of 1928 are the agreement with the United Services Fund and the development of the work in Greater London. It was agreed between the United Services Fund Headquarters and the Central Invalid Children's Aid Association Executive that in 1929 the Association should administer the United Services Fund money for the invalid children of Ex-Service men within the Metropolitan Police Area.

The work in London and Greater London increased so much that great efforts were necessary to cope with it. A new Branch was started in Bermondsey last November and is working very satisfactorily. Kilburn is being organised more thoroughly, and the problem of the new London County Council Estates at Dagenham, Becontree and Burnt Oak is being tackled. The Medical Officers are most helpful and local offers of voluntary help are being received. The number of extra-Metropolitan cases is now 624—a very great increase on last year's statistics.

There have been two new affiliations of Provincial Societies—The Scarborough Council of Social Welfare and the Invalid

and Crippled Children's Welfare Committee, Chesterfield, and many requests for help and advice have come from all over the country.

The Invalid Children's Aid Association has worked closely with the London County Council in their Tuberculosis Scheme, and again sent away 145 children under the "Contact" Scheme. 431 children were referred by the London County Council for visiting under the Rheumatism Scheme.

The Board of Education stipulate that Open-Air Schools must be provided at certain of the Invalid Children's Aid Association Convalescent Homes, it being felt that children convalescing at these Homes for long periods must have Open Air schooling, and schools of this type have therefore been built and are in use at Hamilton House, Seaford, Hawkenbury, Tunbridge, and Heartease, West Wickham.

The Annual Meeting was held at Bridgwater House by kind permission of Lord Ellesmere, on May 1st, when Lord Byng of Vimy took the chair. The Rev. W. G. Pennyman appealed eloquently for the Invalid Children's Aid Association Homes and Mr. Hugh Walpole stressed the importance of the visitors to the child's own home and the value of the work in reassuring children about life. Mr. W. J. Garnett spoke from the point of view of a "slum-dweller" in Stepney, and Mr. Souttar spoke of the relationship between the Hospitals and the Invalid Children's Aid Association and stressed especially the fact that the Invalid Children's Aid Association treats each child as an individual. Miss Faith Celli appealed for financial help for the work.

The Council Meetings were held during this period. On July 13th the subject was "The Nervous Child." Dr. D. Forsyth took the chair and gave a most interesting address, distinguishing between nerves and mental deficiency, and mentioning the various types of nervous children. Dr. Crichton Miller dealt with the nervous invalid child, and Dr. Alice Hutchinson discussed the modern lines of treatment. Miss Mary Chadwick spoke of the importance of the personal environment. On November 30th the subject was "The Need for Dietetic Homes for Children suffering from Malnutrition and other conditions requiring special care with regard to food." Dr. Letitia Fairfield took the chair and raised various points for discussion. Dr. H. C. Cameron spoke on different types of dietetic disorder in children from poor and well-to-do homes. Dr. Harriette Chick spoke of the relation between sunlight and diet. Dr. Friend referred to his work as Medical Officer of Christ's Hospital, Horsham (800 boys). As a result of the meeting a Sub-Committee of

Invalid Children's Aid Association Representatives and diet experts has been formed to explore the possibility of giving practical effect to the suggestions made by the various speakers.

In 1927 there were 11,804 new cases, while in 1928 there was a large increase and 13,813 new cases were added to the numbers. Current cases increased from 52,710 in 1927 to 53,980 in 1928. In 1927, 7,341 children were sent to Convalescent Homes, and in 1928 the number increased to 7,730. 1,928 children were supplied with surgical instruments, boots, crutches and spinal carriages during the year. The amount raised by Central (income) during the year was £42,106 0s. 8d., an increase of over £5,000 on the income in 1927, and the amount raised by the Central Committee and its 40 Branches in 1928 was £102,010 17s. 2d.

THE MOTHERCRAFT TRAINING SOCIETY.

FOUNDED 1918 by SIR FREDERICK TRUBY KING, C.M.G.

Cromwell House, Highgate Hill, N.6.

Telephone: Mountview 2100.

President: H.R.H. THE DUCHESS OF YORK.

Patroness: H.R.H. THE PRINCESS LOUISE DUCHESS OF ARGYLL.

Chairman of Executive Committee: LADY GALWAY.

Hon. Treasurer: E. R. PEACOCK, ESQ.

Hon. Consulting Physician: DR. J. S. FAIRBAIRN, F.R.C.S., F.R.C.P.

Hon. Medical Director: DR. R. C. JEWESBURY, M.D., F.R.C.P.

Matron: MISS M. LIDDIARD.

Secretary: MISS AGATHA HAVARD.

BRANCH CENTRE: 128 WALTON STREET, S.W.3.

Telephone: Sloane 8652.

President: THE LADY PLUNKET.

Chairman of Committee: THE LADY DAWSON OF PENN.

Vice-Chairman: HON. MRS. RICHARD HOARE and MRS. CHARLES RUSSELL.

Hon. Secretary: MRS. WELLINGTON HAY.

Medical Officer: DR. T. M. LING, M.B., B.Ch.

Superintendent: MISS D. EDWARDS.

REPORT FOR NINE MONTHS—APRIL 1st to DECEMBER 31st, 1928.

The last nine months of 1928 witnessed two important events in the history of the Society, namely: the start on the building of the new Hostel for Students and Wing for mothers and babies in the grounds of Cromwell House. and the opening of the first Branch Centre at 128, Walton Street, S.W.3. in October.

The Special Appeal Fund Committee worked very hard throughout the year to raise the money needed for the new building. The Hon. Mrs. Richard Hoare very kindly arranged

a Children's Dancing Matinée in May at the Adelphi Theatre, which, besides providing a delightful entertainment, was also a financial success.

Then in December, a Dinner was held at Grosvenor House, Park Lane, at which the Chairman of the Dinner Committee, the Lady Dawson of Penn, presided. The Speakers, in addition to Lady Dawson of Penn, were :— The Rt. Hon. J. H. Thomas, M.P., The Lord Dawson of Penn, and Lady Galway. The Society's President, H.R.H. The Duchess of York, sent the following gracious message, which was read aloud by Lady Dawson :— "I am delighted to hear of the wonderful response that has been made to the Appeal for the Princess Elizabeth Hostel, and I hope that, now that £22,000 of the total of £25,000 required has been subscribed, the balance will be secured so that the Hostel may be opened free of debt."

The Prime Minister also kindly sent a message, as follows :— "It has given me the greatest pleasure to see the improvement during recent years in the knowledge and practice of Mothercraft. But I look forward to a continued record of progress in the future. We have still a long way to go, and there is much more that we can do to promote the welfare of our Mothers and the healthy up-bringing of our children. It is a most beneficent work, and I can assure all those who are assisting in it that they are rendering service of very great social and national importance."

I should like on this occasion to send my most cordial congratulations to the Mothercraft Training Society on the excellent results which it has achieved. I wish the Society every success in its endeavours to extend the scope of its work."

Mrs. Baldwin very kindly honoured the Society by her presence at the Dinner, as did also the French Ambassador and Mme. de Fleurian. The sum of £15,000 was added to the Building Fund as the result of the Dinner.

On June 11th, the Annual Meeting was held at Cromwell House, and there was a specially large attendance, owing to the fact that Sir Frederick Truby King was in London and was able to preside. The adoption of the Annual Report was moved by Lady Galway as Chairman of the Executive Committee, and seconded by Dr. R. C. Jewesbury, the Hon. Medical Director. Sir Truby King then rose, amid applause, and said how much pleasure it gave him to be present and to meet the members of the Committee and others interested in the work. He referred to the recent visit of Miss Liddiard, the Matron, to New Zealand, and said how much this had done to strengthen the bond between the New Zealand and the British Society.

On June 22nd and 26th, Sir Truby King was good enough to come and give two lectures to the Students, and many ex-Students, living in London, gladly availed themselves of the opportunity of hearing these lectures.

From April 16th to 20th, the Society had a stall at the Nursing and Midwifery Exhibition at the Central Hall, Westminster, and in September it arranged an exhibition stall in connection with Hackney Baby Week.

Another Refresher Course for fully-trained nurses and midwives, who have taken the M.T.S. Certificate, and who were not able to attend the Course held in December 1927, was held from November 6th to 9th. Eleven nurses attended the whole Course, and many others were able to come to the evening lectures. Dr. J. S. Fairbairn very kindly gave a lecture on Ante-Natal work, Dr. Murray-Levick on Sunlight, Dr. R. C. Jewsbury on The Normal Development of the Child, and Dr. J. Fenton on Fathercraft.

The Matron has given the following outside Lectures :—

Two Lectures at a Public Health Nurses' Refresher Course, at Bingley in Yorkshire.

To Public Health Nurses and Midwives at Worcester.

Two Lectures in Manchester, one at the College of Nursing and one to the Princess Christian Nurses.

At a Public Meeting in Liverpool in connection with the School of Mothercraft.

Two Lectures to the Midwives' Association in Ipswich.

To the Midwives' Association at Hereford.

Two Lectures at Carnegie House in connection with the National Society of Day Nurseries.

At the Health Week Conference at Bristol.

To the Branch of the College of Nursing at Leicester.

The following figures for the same nine months in 1926, 1927, and 1928 may be of interest as showing the growth of the work and the need for the Branch Centre :—

	1926.	1927.	1928.
Out-Patient Attendances	4000	5727	7314
New Cases	806	1111	1360
Mothers for the day for Test Weighing	333	365	437
Names on books	1269	1676	2144
Number of Clinics	116	186	191

Courses of 12 Lectures for young mothers, expectant mothers and girls about to marry have been given at regular intervals, and have been so much appreciated that it has been arranged to start a Course at the Branch Centre. The Lectures at Cromwell House are held on Mondays and Thursdays at 3 p.m., but

it is thought that lectures on Tuesday evenings at the Branch Centre may be a convenience to girls in business, who are looking forward to marriage. A request from one or two such girls has led to this arrangement.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE PREVENTION OF INFANT MORTALITY.

Under the Patronage of Their Majesties King George V and Queen Mary.

President :

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE VISCOUNT ASTOR.

Chairman : DR. G. F. STILL.

Vice-Chairman : DR. HAROLD SCURFIELD.

Hon. Secretaries : DR. A. K. CHALMERS.

DR. ERIC PRITCHARD.

MISS J. HALFORD, O.B.E.

Offices : Carnegie House, 117, Piccadilly, W.1.

Telephone : Grosvenor 1140.

The Association has continued to occupy itself with all matters relating to legislative and administrative action in connection with mothers and with children under 5 years of age; with the organisation of a variety of courses of lectures on this subject; with the holding of a national Conference; and with all such other matters concerning mothers and young children as are not covered by any of the other existing national organisations.

The Association has, as usual, mainly occupied itself during 1928 with a careful scrutiny of all legislation affecting the welfare of mothers and young children, and consideration of all matters which appeared to call for new or amended Acts of Parliament. The following Bills have been under consideration :—

- (a) The Nursing Homes Registration Bill.
- (b) The Bastardy Laws Amendment Bill.
- (c) The Local Government Bill.

In connection with the latter, the Association joined with most of the other national child welfare organisations in Carnegie House in pressing for the deletion of the maternity and child welfare service from the Bill, believing that the block grant system could not but be prejudicial, as compared with the percentage system of State aid, to so young and expanding a movement.

The following matters have also been studied with a view to the introduction of legislation :—

- (a) It is well known that in working-class houses it is of frequent occurrence that bodies awaiting burial are kept

for several days in one or two-roomed homes in which there are also many young children. An enquiry on this matter was therefore addressed to a number of Medical Officers of Health in industrial areas, who reported that these conditions did, in fact, prevail, but that, although suitable public mortuary accommodation was in existence, it was very little used, owing to the not unnatural reluctance of working-class families to avail themselves of it.

(b) The attention of the Association was also called, and not for the first time, to the need for legislation to prevent the manufacture and sale of "comforters" or "dummies." Such legislation has existed for some time in France, but on enquiry there it was found to be of very little use, as the mothers simply make their own substitutes, which are often worse than the manufactured article. No action was therefore taken.

At the beginning of the year the question as to whether every maternal death in childbirth should in future be the subject of enquiry was debated at considerable length. The present practice was reviewed, and discussion arose as to by whom and after what lapse of time an enquiry should be held. The following resolution was passed:—

"That, except in cases where an enquiry is ordered by the Coroner, an official enquiry, independent of the person who has attended the confinement, should be made in the case of every maternal death occurring within four weeks after labour."

It was gratifying to find, shortly after this discussion had taken place, that the Ministry of Health had set up two Commissions, one relating to the Training of Midwives and the other to Maternal Mortality and Morbidity, on which several good friends of the Association had seats. It is to be hoped that much-needed light on the question of maternal mortality and morbidity will be shed as a result of the investigations now to be pursued. It is a subject which has gravely concerned the Association from the outset; for this country is little better situated than many others in respect of its all-too-high rate of mortality among child-bearing women.

Arising out of the question of maternal mortality and morbidity, enquiries were set on foot, during the year, among appropriate bodies as to the possibility of an investigation being made into the incidence and treatment of, and disabilities consequent on maternal miscarriage. After careful consideration of the pros and cons it was decided that a more opportune time for such an enquiry might arrive a few months hence, and no action was

consequently taken during the current year. The absence of reliable statistics will always be a great obstacle to such an enquiry.

The educational work of the Association has continued on very much the same lines as in the past. Two post-graduate courses of ten lectures each have been provided in co-operation with the Infants Hospital, Westminster, and were well attended, the second course more particularly, in view of its concentration on matters relating to nutrition. Three sets of ten lectures were also given to crèche workers, in co-operation with the National Society of Day Nurseries.

The Association was fortunate in obtaining permission from the Corporation of the City of London to hold its annual Conference in the historic Guildhall for the first time since the series was inaugurated in 1906. An exceptionally attractive and timely programme was arranged, one session of which was devoted to maternal morbidity, including that due to miscarriage and abortion, and the advantages and organisation of post-natal clinics. A second session was fully occupied with maternal mortality: its causes and prevention; and a third with the requirements of the unmarried mother and her child.

Since all the lectures and papers and the discussions thereon were published in the autumn* it is unnecessary to give further details here. Suffice to say that the programme proved so attractive that every available ticket for the Conference was sold a week before it began, and nearly 200 would-be delegates had to be refused admission. Even so, close on 500 people filled the Guildhall, the majority of whom also greatly enjoyed the privilege of being allowed to lunch in the beautiful old Hall of the Drapers' Company.

To facilitate the attendance of British delegates at the International Congress on Child Welfare held in Paris as part of the Social Welfare Fortnight, which took place there during the first half of July, the British National Conference was cut down to two days, and close on 100 members and others then proceeded to Paris. The gathering afforded many opportunities for visits to institutions and the exchange of experiences between a large number of different nationalities. Not the least valuable feature of the Congress was the Exhibition, although it was unfortunately held at the other end of Paris. No other country showed such an attractive and practical child welfare exhibit

* Report of the Proceedings of the National Conference on Maternity and Infant Welfare, held at the Guildhall, London, E.C., on July 4th, 5th, and 6th, 1928. Price 2s.6d. per copy, 18s. per dozen, post free, from 117, Piccadilly, London W.1.

as did Great Britain, worthily represented by the Travelling Exhibition of the Central Council for Infant and Child Welfare, with Miss Keating, its able organiser, in charge.

NATIONAL BABY WEEK COUNCIL.

Chairman of Executive Committee: ERIC PRITCHARD, ESQ., M.A., M.D.,
F.R.C.P.

Joint Honorary Secretaries: MRS. SOPHIA SEEKINGS FRIEL, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.

* C. T. MAITLAND, ESQ., M.B., B.Sc., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Joint Honorary Treasurers: * MAJOR C. P. LOVELOCK, M.B.E., T.D.
MRS. JOHN WOODS.

* resigned during the year.

Secretary: MISS NORAH MARCH, B.Sc.

Office: Carnegie House, 117, Piccadilly, London, W.1.

Telephone: Grosvenor 1213.

During 1928—the twelfth year of the National Baby Week Council's activities—the greatest demand since the war was experienced for the Council's services at home and overseas. In addition to its work of general and national propaganda the Council assisted in the organisation of 622 local propaganda activities such as Baby Weeks, Health and Baby Weeks, Baby Days, Baby Competitions, and so forth.

It has now become customary for the Council to select three aspects of the maternity and child welfare problem for special attention each year, and during 1928 those selected were the following:—

- (a) Immunisation as a means of protecting young children against disease.
- (b) Prevention of maternal mortality—with special reference to ante-natal care and the provision of maternity homes and hospitals.
- (c) New developments in maternity and child welfare work.

These three subjects received attention throughout the whole campaign and found a welcome place in local and national propaganda programmes. The general and specialised Press gave ready publicity to them, not only during National Baby Week, but throughout the year.

During the year Sir J. Gomer Berry, Bart., accepted the position of Chairman of the Council, rendered vacant by the resignation of the Viscount Astor, who, owing to increasing Parliamentary duties, felt obliged to relinquish the office. The honour which Sir Gomer Berry has conferred upon the Council is a matter for real encouragement and appreciation.

The Lady Astor Challenge Shield (presented to the Council by the Viscountess Astor, M.P., to replace the one originally given by the Viscount Astor and which was won outright by the Northampton Maternity and Infant Welfare Voluntary Association in 1927) was awarded to the Kettering U.D.C. Ladies' Voluntary Committee for Infant Welfare, for conducting during 1928 the best local Baby Week campaign in the larger areas of the British Isles. To Oldbury (Worcs.) Infant Welfare Centre went the honour of securing second place in order of merit for which it was awarded a special trophy (a "Save the Babies" plaque). The William Hardy Challenge Shield, reserved for competition among the smaller areas, was awarded to the Hill and Cake-more (Worcs.) Infant Welfare Centre. The Halesowen (Worcs.) Infant Welfare Centre secured second place, and was awarded a special trophy similar to that gained by the Oldbury Infant Welfare Centre. Certificates of Merit were awarded to the local Baby Week Committees of Bilston (Staffs.), Kingston (Surrey), Sunderland, Bungay (Suffolk), East and West Molesey (Surrey), Lymington (Hants), and Welwyn Garden City. The Northampton Maternity and Infant Welfare Voluntary Association in view of their successes in 1925, 1926 and 1927, sought the opinion of the judges on the merits of their campaign, which proved to be as good as those whereby they won the Astor Shield, but in a spirit of sportmanship did not compete for the Lady Astor Shield.

The Imperial Baby Week Challenge Shield, donated to the Council by the *News of the World*, for annual competition for the best Baby Week campaign held throughout the Empire (exclusive of the British Isles) was for 1927/28 won by the Baby Week Committee of Benoni, Transvaal, South Africa. Certificates of Merit were awarded to the Baby Week Committees of Penukonda (India), Rewari (India), Bombay, Chingleput (India), Delhi (India), Gujrat (India), Hoshangabad (India), Sydney (Australia), Tuticorin (India), and St. John (Dominica, British West Indies). This competition is without doubt proving a tremendous stimulus to the rapid development of the Baby Week movement overseas.

A special feature of National Baby Week was the Conference on Maternity and Child Welfare, organised by the National Association for the Prevention of Infant Mortality. The National Baby Week Council was not, as in previous years, responsible for the organisation of a special session at the Conference, but Dr. Eric Pritchard, Chairman of the Executive Committee, contributed to the opening session a paper on "Factors concerned in the reduction of Neo-Natal Mortality," the material

for which was secured through a competition which the *Daily News*, in conjunction with the Council, held in 1927, when prizes were offered for the greatest reduction in neo-natal mortality in certain specified areas. During the Week a poster parade took place through the main streets of London and in addition over 5,000 posters were displayed, not only in many shops in London, but also in Infant Welfare Centres, shops and public buildings throughout the country. On the Wednesday in National Baby Week a propaganda film display was given by the Council in the King George's Hall, Tottenham Court Road, London, W.C. Over 800 persons attended the display, which was a continuous performance lasting from 6.30 p.m. to 10.30 p.m.

Baby Sunday, July 1st, received far greater attention than hitherto from clergy of all denominations. Over 1,000 individual clergymen were approached with a view to securing their help, and a very large number readily responded to the appeal made to them. Canon F. L. Donaldson preached a special Baby Sunday sermon at St. Margaret's, Westminster, and gave the Council permission to publish it.

The following National Competitions were conducted by the Council during the year :—

A. FOR MOTHERS.—An essay on "What the Ideal Parents of my Family would be." This Competition attracted nearly 600 entries, the results being announced during National Baby Week, and the first prize won by Mrs. Isabella Childs, of Barrow-in-Furness.

B. FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN.—(i) A design in pen or pencil drawing, or in painting, for a "Baby Week" poster. This competition secured over 300 entries, and the results were announced during National Baby Week. (ii) An essay on "Give six good rules for managing a one-year old baby, and write not more than twenty lines on one of them." The essay had to be written on Friday, July 6th, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., and approximately 20,000 children competed. The results were announced during Health Week, October 7th to 13th.

Many additions were made to the Council's list of publications, and requests for its leaflets and pamphlets during 1928 were considerably heavier than in preceding years. In order to meet the increased demand for films, the Council added a non-flam copy of "Who Was to Blame?" and of "Empire Builders" to its existing equipment of cinema copies. These additions enabled many displays of these two films to be conducted in ordinary halls and Welfare Centres, as well as in cinemas and licensed halls.

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE UNMARRIED MOTHER AND HER CHILD.

Office : Carnegie House, 117, Piccadilly, W.1.

President : THE RT. HON. NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN, P.C., M.P.

Chairman : MRS. H. A. L. FISHER.

Vice-Chairman : W. G. WILLOUGHBY, ESQ., M.D., D.P.H.

Hon. Secretary : MRS. ARTHUR WHITTING.

Hon. Treasurer : THE COUNTESS OF CLARENDON.

Hon. Solicitor : WARDEN GOWING, ESQ., O.B.E.

Hon. Auditor : MAURICE JENKS, ESQ., F.C.A.

General Secretary : MISS SUSAN MUSSON.

Telephone : Grosvenor 1482.

In the early part of 1928, the Council secured the promise of Sir Walter Greaves Lord, M.P., to re-introduce the Bastardy Laws Amendment Bill, but owing to pressure of parliamentary business and also to a certain amount of difficulty felt by some of the Council's allied societies in supporting the measure in its present form, it was finally agreed to defer any Parliamentary action until further time had been given to consideration of the proposals. The main objects of the Bill are to make it possible for an affiliation case to be heard before the birth of the child, to secure some contribution from the father towards the support of the expectant mother during the later months of pregnancy, to do away with the present proviso that a child must have been born alive if expenses of confinement are to be sought in a Court of Law, and to make it permissible for the guardian of a child or a Board of Guardians to take action to secure an affiliation order in spite of the fact that death or insanity of the mother makes it impossible for her evidence to be heard in Court. A round-table conference is shortly to be held to discuss proposals for the amendment of the Bill, and possibly the extension of its scope. The Council in conjunction with the Committees of local residential homes, has been active in an endeavour to secure the exemption of these institutions from the Block-grant system under the Local Government Bill, mainly on the ground that such homes are not as a rule for the direct benefit of residents in the area in which they are to be found, but carried on under a useful system of exchange or transfer of cases. Although the Government refused to allow one type of child welfare institution to be separated from the general scheme, certain useful amendments were secured during the Bill's passage through Parliament, and the Council trusts that the position may prove to be less difficult than had been feared under the original proposals. The Council has kept a watching brief and taken suitable action from time to time, in reference

to the working of the Legitimacy Act (which has not proved to be so definite in its meaning as had been hoped), the Adoption of Children Act, the Nursing Homes Registration Act, and such legislative problems as the issue of a witness summons in an affiliation case, the sale of drugs as abortifacients, and other matters affecting the problems of maternal and infant mortality. The death-rate among unmarried mothers in childbirth being higher in England and Wales than among married mothers, the Council has expressed its desire to co-operate in every possible way in the recent intensified campaign against maternal mortality.

Literature published during the year include a new leaflet on the subject of "The Illegitimate Child as a Poor-law Problem," and a 3rd edition of "A Few Points of the Law Relating to Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Children." A new departure was the publication in French of a short statement on statutory and voluntary work for the illegitimate child in Great Britain, for distribution at the Child Welfare Exhibition held in Paris.

Meetings have been held, or speakers provided for those organised by other bodies, in various parts of Great Britain. Representatives have attended various conferences, notably those arranged by the National Association for the Prevention of Infant Mortality, the Southern Diocesan Association for Rescue and Preventive Work, and the Hospital Almoners' Association. The Council continues to work in cordial co-operation with residential institutions for unmarried mothers and their babies, among Homes recently affiliated to the Council being St. Nicholas' Home for Roman Catholic mothers and babies, Highbury, and Stretton House, Grove Park, under the auspices of the Southwark Diocesan Association for Preventive and Rescue Work.

The Council now has Correspondent Committees in many parts of Great Britain, among them being the Manchester Salford and District Council for the Unmarried Mother and Her Child, the Birmingham Association for the Care and Training of the Unmarried Mother and Her Child, the Liverpool Personal Service Society, the Bristol Women's Aid Association, the Edinburgh Mothers and Infants' Home Committee, and the Glasgow Women's Help Committee. This arrangement has been found mutually helpful and satisfactory, as has also the friendly co-operation of the secretaries and workers of the Diocesan Associations for Preventive and Rescue Work, and other social organisations.

The Individual Enquiries Department continues to receive hundreds of applications for help each year. Among the visitors to the office are mothers who bring children of nine or ten years of age known to the Case Committee from infancy; this is particularly encouraging when the child is strong and well, and the mother in satisfactory circumstances.

NATIONAL HEALTH SOCIETY.

FOUNDED 1872. INCORPORATED 1884.

President :

H.R.H. PRINCESS LOUISE, DUCHESS OF ARGYLL.

President of the Council :

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE.

Chairman : SIR JAMES CRICHTON BROWNE, M.D., F.R.C.S.

Vice-Chairman : PROFESSOR KENWOOD, M.B., D.P.H.

Treasurer : SIR ADRIAN POLLOCK (Chamberlain of the City of London).

Secretary : MISS C. DICKENS.

Office : 90, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.1.

Telephone : Sloane 3613.

The work of the National Health Society is now almost entirely devoted to the Training of Health Visitors under the Regulations of the Ministry of Health, and, as a Training School, the work of the past years gives encouragement and satisfaction. Since the Regulations of the Ministry of Health came strictly into force in April 1928 the number of students presenting themselves for training has increased and the Classes have been well filled. The year is divided into three terms and new students have been received at the commencement of each term. The majority of students are, of course, Trained Nurses taking the Six Months Course, but there is also a steady supply of students who, having no previous training, take the Two Years Course. The Examination lists show a very high percentage of success and it is pleasing to note further that the successful students quickly find suitable appointments as Health Visitors, etc. The Society is able to make small Loans to students who would otherwise find the cost of training a difficulty and the call on the Loan Fund during the year has been somewhat heavy. It is, however, satisfactory to record the regularity and promptness with which such loans are repaid and the gratitude with which they are received. The Loan Fund was instituted after the War by the late Miss Lankester and has done much good work. Great care is, of course, exercised in the selection of candidates for the Loan.

Free Lectures have been given to Meetings of Mothers Union,

Women's Institute, etc., but the demand for these is now comparatively small owing to the admirable advantages at the Welfare Centres, etc.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND.

(BLIND BABIES DEPARTMENT.)

"SUNSHINE HOMES FOR BLIND BABIES."

President: H.R.H. PRINCESS BEATRICE.

Conducted by the National Institute for the Blind,

224, Great Portland Street, W.1.

(Registered under the Blind Persons Act, 1920.)

Patrons:

H.M. THE KING.

H.M. THE QUEEN.

Chairman: CAPT. SIR BEACHCROFT TOWSE, V.C., K.C.V.O., C.B.E.

Vice-Chairman: SIR MICHAEL O'DWYER, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I.

Hon. Treasurers: G. F. MOWATT, J.P.

A. J. W. KITCHIN, C.I.E.

Secretary-General: W. McG. EAGAR.

The National Institute for the Blind became affiliated to the Central Council for Infant and Child Welfare in 1923, one of the Institute's chief activities being the establishment and maintenance of Homes for Blind Babies.

There are at present three Sunshine Homes. These are at Southport, Lancs., Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, and at Abbotskerswell, S. Devon, the latter temporarily replacing the parent Home at Chorley Wood, which was destroyed by fire in September 1928.

The establishment by the Institute of the first Sunshine Home was an experiment of which the result was awaited with enormous interest by all concerned with the education of the Blind. The experiment was an unqualified success, and the "Sunshine" scheme of care and training was gradually extended by the establishment of a second and a third Home.

It is in the Homes themselves that any man or woman will find life-long conviction that here is a work which must continue while a single baby is born into this world without the most precious of the gifts of God. Talking to these happy normal little mites, listening to their childish prattle, entering into their wonderful adventures in strange sand-pits and down unknown garden paths—all one's own childhood floods the memory with sunshine, and the marvel of the world as it was then comes back. Yet here, beside you, are little ones who, however happy, can never carry with them through life even the memory of a swallow's flight, a cornfield's glow, or the love in the eyes of a faithful dog. The knowledge springs on you with a pang of pain, and the most unimaginative, the least sensitive

person feels that there is nothing which should be denied these infants of an alien world.

That is the keynote of the Institute's policy at all its Sunshine Homes. It is felt that these mites who are providentially under the Institute's charge should be given everything that love for children and experience in blindness can suggest that may compensate them, however disproportionately, for their own irreparable loss. In those little minds the solid foundations of character must be laid, and the seeds of knowledge implanted: but, above all, there must be created a memory of happy childhood amongst beautiful surroundings in an atmosphere of love, a memory which as they grow old will always be like a charm in their hearts, to spur them to endeavour, to comfort them in pain.

That is the first duty. And the second duty is to equip them, mentally and physically, with every possible means of proving themselves in after life masters of their fate, conquerors of blindness, independent men and women of the world, fellow competitors with the sighted in the great game of life.

Life at the three Sunshine Homes is but the record of a very happy family—with plenty of fun and plenty of work, all going on to the tune of hearty laughter, breeding healthy appetites and vigorous growth.

Below is a table illustrating the work accomplished at the Blind Babies' Homes during the nine months, April 1st to December 31st, 1928:—

	Chorley Wood. (Abbotskers- well.)	South- port.	Leaming- ton.	Total
Number in Homes, 31st December, 1928 ...	19	31	31	81
Add Admissions during period ...	5	3	5	13
Add Transferences from Leamington Homes	2			
	26	34	36	94
Less discharges	5	5	4	14
Less Transferences to Chorley Wood			2	
	21	29	30	80

Discharges:

- 6 Transferred to Residential Schools for the Blind.
- 2 Transferred to L.C.C. Day Schools for the Blind.
- 1 Discharged. "Too much sight."
- 5 Unsuitable.

Fortunately it has not yet been found necessary to consider the establishment of a fourth Home. But should the necessity arise, the Institute, needless to say, will give the matter its immediate attention.

Children can be retained in the Homes past the normal limit of five years, and up to seven years, if it is considered that such retention is in the interests of the children.

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF DAY NURSERIES.

Office : Carnegie House, 117, Piccadilly, London, W.1.

Secretary : MISS MADDOCK.

Telephone : Grosvenor 1283

The Society has carried on its work of helping and co-ordinating the Nurseries much as usual during the past nine months.

It is with regret that the resignation of Lady Islington from the post of Chairman of the Executive Committee has to be announced. At the time of going to press a new Chairman has not been elected. Fortunately, Lady Lawrence, C.B.E. having been appointed Vice-Chairman of the Executive early in the year, the business of the Society has been carried on under her guidance.

It is with pleasure we announce that Lady Erleigh has accepted the position of Vice-President of the Society. Realising how active a worker in Child Welfare Lady Erleigh is, it is felt the Society has gained considerably by her acceptance of this position.

During the nine months a Council Meeting took place in December, when Lady Galway, C.B.E. spoke on the difficult question of Block Grants in connection with the new Local Government Bill, and Mrs. Cottington Taylor gave an interesting and instructive address on "Modern Housekeeping Problems in the Day Nurseries."

Lectures to Probationers were specially well attended, and the Courses were given by Dr. Prudence Gaffikin, and Dr. Cicely Peake. This Nursery training scheme is warmly welcomed by Institutions all over the United Kingdom: great keenness is shown in the examination and the results are most encouraging. This is a useful side of the work, and the demand for Nursery Nurses with this special training steadily increases. During the past nine months several new Institutions have taken part in this theoretical work.

At a Child Welfare Conference in July the Society helped with certain social functions which were well attended.

Once again Lady Erleigh very kindly arranged a Course of Lectures for Mothers during the autumn, and it is felt that warm thanks are due, not only to Lady Erleigh and Mrs. Shaw for the work in connection with arranging these Lectures, but also to the doctors who so generously give their services.

The Annual Meeting was held in July at Carnegie House, and was a purely business affair. In the absence of Lady Islington the Chair was taken by Lady Lawrence, C.B.E.

The work of the Babies' Hotel and at Hurstleigh, Tunbridge Wells, continues to flourish and to benefit large numbers of children, and most excellent and valuable training is given to girls who are going in for the work of nursery nurses. Besides these two Homes Mrs. Max Holman will be opening her Home for Convalescent children early in March. The work at the St. Margaret's Nurseries has also gone on most satisfactorily during the past year under the guidance of the excellent Nursery Committee, and the work of the capable Secretary, Miss Crowder. The representatives of the Society on that Committee are Lady Lawrence, C.B.E. and Mrs. Shaw. All those who are interested in Child Welfare work realise how urgent is the necessity for resident accommodation for young children—either for emergency in convalescent cases or for holidays.

H.R.H. Princess Mary in July formally opened the Day Nursery at Hampstead in the presence of a distinguished company, this Nursery having been rebuilt on the site of the old Nursery, which had been established in a house over 200 years old, which had been condemned by the Authorities.

The Society has been able to give substantial assistance in the shape of Grants to Nurseries which were in need of help, both in London and the Provinces. Many Nurseries have effected improvements during the past months with the help and advice from the Society, and financial assistance from the Ministry of Health.

THE STATE CHILDREN'S ASSOCIATION.

Chairman : The RT. HON. LORD STANMORE.

Vice-Chairmen : LORD HENRY CAVENDISH BENTINCK, M.P.

MR. K. G. RUSSELL VAIZEY.

Hon. Treasurers : MR. BERESFORD V. MELVILLE.

THE RT. HON. SIR ALBERT SPICER, BART.

Hon. Secretaries : DAME HENRIETTA BARNETT, D.B.E.

MR. J. A. LOVAT-FRASER.

Office : Carnegie House, 117, Piccadilly, W.1. *Telephone* : Grosvenor 2734.

The outstanding event in the Poor Law world during the past year, 1928, has been the introduction by Mr. Chamberlain of his Local Government Bill into the House of Commons. The Bill provides that the functions of Board of Guardians are to be transferred to the County Councils and County Borough Councils. It brings about a revolution in the administration of Poor Law relief, and, when it is placed on the Statute Book,

the efforts of The State Children's Association must be devoted to securing that the objects and principles of the Association shall be kept to the front in the new system of administration. The proceedings of the new Guardians Committee must be closely followed, as the proceedings of the Boards of Guardians have been followed in the past. Constant pressure must be exercised to secure that the children for whom the State is responsible shall be treated on individual as against institutional lines and that boarding-out and small scattered homes shall continue to be used as the best method of dealing with them. Efforts too should be made to get as many women as possible on the County Councils and on the Committees that deal with the children.

The Association has always advocated and now strongly advocates the boarding-out of Poor Law children, where they are suitable for this method of treatment. The number of those boarded out, however, is declining. The number boarded out on 1st January, 1928, was 8,697, being a reduction of 556 from the corresponding figure of 1st January, 1927. It is satisfactory to know that this is due to the operation of the Widows, Orphans and Old Age Contributory Act of 1925. In view of the fact that the Association was the first body to advocate pensions for widows with dependent children, it is gratifying to find that the Act is obviously having the effect of increasing the number of children who are receiving a mother's care.

The Association advocates the extension of the Probation system. This system is steadily being improved and made more effective. The work is being more efficiently organised, and the number of Probation Officers is increasing, and the position of those officers is being improved by the raising of salaries and the establishment of a superannuation scheme. The number of children put on probation during 1924 was 5,972 out of 25,804 found guilty, or 23.14 per cent. In 1927 it was 6,302 out of 22,448 found guilty, or 28.07 per cent.

There is still scope for the increased use of probation. The Annual Report of the Children's Branch of the Home Office states that there are still marked differences of practice with regard to probation in different parts of the country, and that whereas in some areas probation is probably being used to its greatest extent, in other areas there is room for a wider exercise of the beneficent powers vested in Courts by the "Probation of Offenders' Act."

In 1928 the Association continued its efforts to stop the illegal practice adopted by some magistrates of putting boys on probation and at the same time ordering them to be birched. An

attempt was made to get a question asked in the House of Commons, but the Clerks at the Table refused the question on the ground that the Home Office could not stop this illegal practice. At the Annual Meeting of the National Association of Probation Officers in May, Mr. Lovat-Fraser spoke in reprobation of the practice, and the Association unanimously passed a resolution condemning the birching of any delinquents. It is satisfactory to state that the Home Office has at last given it to be understood that the practice must stop.

No effort is spared to propagate the views of the Association. During the Child Welfare Exhibition in Paris in July the ladies who represented the National Council for Maternity and Child Welfare distributed literature of the State Children's Association which had been translated into French for the purpose to many people including the President of the French Republic. A new edition of the pamphlet, "Child Offenders" was issued during the year.

Reference may be made, on account of its exceptional success, to a Meeting of the local branch of the National Council of Women, addressed by Mr. Lovat-Fraser in the Assize Court at Exeter in the early part of the year. The gratifying feature of the address was the remarkable publicity given by the Devonshire and Cornish papers to the speech. Mr. Lovat-Fraser pointed out that Devon and Cornwall were "the black spots" of the country from the Poor Law point of view, and this appears to have been regarded as good copy by the press.

The Association is greatly indebted to Lady Sydenham who kindly gave an American Tea at her house in Onslow Square on March 16, 1928. There was a good attendance and a Meeting was held in the drawing-room at which Lady Sydenham presided. Interesting speeches were made by Lady Sydenham herself, and by Dame Henrietta Barnett, Sir Albert Spicer and Mr. Lovat-Fraser. By the sale of the gifts, and donations, the generous sum of over twenty pounds was obtained for the funds of the Association.

The Association incurred a further debt of gratitude to Lady Emmott who generously lent her house in Ennismore Gardens for the Annual Meeting on 8th November, 1928. Lady Emmott received the guests and presided at the Meeting. Addresses were delivered by Dame Henrietta Barnett, Sir Albert Spicer, Lord Shuttleworth, Miss Muriel Payne, Mr. Lovat-Fraser, Colonel Thomson and Mr. Vaizey. Miss Payne, who was formerly Matron of the Bethnal Green Schools, gave an account of her experiences and work there, which was followed with the closest interest.

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE
(INCORPORATED).
BALANCE SHEET,
31st DECEMBER, 1928.

[illegible]

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE
(INCORPORATED).

We have audited the above Balance Sheet dated 31st December, 1928, with the books and vouchers of the Company and have received all the information and explanations we have required. In our opinion such Balance Sheet is properly drawn up so as to show the true and correct position of the Company's affairs according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us, and as shown by the books of the Company.

ALDERMAN'S HOUSE,
BISHOPSGATE, LONDON, E.C.2.
9th March, 1929.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT—continued.

EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To SUBSCRIPTION TO JOURNAL ...	2,517	0	6			
„ INSTITUTE OF INFANT WELFARE FUND (Per contra)						
Transferred to Balance Sheet	100	0	0			
„ TRAVELLING AND PERMANENT EXHIBITIONS—						
Organiser's Salary	262	10	0			
General Salaries	177	7	8			
Travelling and other expenses	131	1	11			
Purchases	145	2	2			
Insurances	0	17	5			
Less:	716	19	2			
Hire Fees, Travelling Expenses (recoverable), Sales, Donations and Collections	527	4	4			
„ PARIS CONGRESS Expenditure	96	13	1			
Less: Grants	66	2	0			
	30	11	1			
	£2,912	6	5			
INCOME.						
Brought forward	2,912	6	5			

THE FOLLOWING GRANTS HAVE BEEN MADE SINCE 1919 :—

	1919-20	1920-21	1921-22	1922-23	1923-24	1924-25	TOTAL
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
National Health Society	—	—	125	50	25	—	200
Incorporated Midwives' Institute ...	500	—	—	—	50	—	550
Invalid Children's Aid Association ...	700	—	700	200	250	100	1,950
I.C.A.A. (London Central Spectacles Association)	—	—	400	200	—	—	600
National League for Health, Maternity and Child Welfare	200	—	500	200	250	100	1,250
National Society of Day Nurseries ...	100	250	—	100	100	50	600
London Federation of Infant Welfare Centres... ..	—	—	100	100	—	—	200
National Baby Week Council	500	500	50	100	200	—	1,350
Children's Jewel Fund	500	—	—	—	—	—	500
Mothercraft Training Society	500	500	—	—	100	—	1,100
National Council for the Unmarried Mother and her Child	250	750	125	100	150	75	1,450
Central Committee for the Care of Cripples	500	—	250	100	—	75	925
Child Welfare Travelling Exhibition ...	150	275	28	—	—	—	453
State Children's Association	—	—	—	—	50	50	100
Balham Day Nursery	—	100	—	—	—	—	100
Council of Evangelical Free Churches' Maternity and Training Home, Mere, Wilts.	—	50	—	—	—	—	50
Princess Christian's Day Nursery, Windsor	100	—	—	—	—	—	100
Princess Marie Louise Babies' Club, Bermondsey	200	—	—	—	—	—	200
Queen Mary's Maternity Home, Hampstead	100	—	—	—	—	—	100
Salvation Army	—	100	500	—	—	—	600
Southwark Diocesan Rescue Association	—	25	—	—	—	—	25
West Islington Infant Welfare Centre	150	—	—	—	—	—	150
Total	£4,450	£2,550	£2,778	£1,150	£1,175	£450	£12,553

The National Council for Maternity and Child Welfare.

Date..... 19.....

TO THE SECRETARY,
CARNEGIE HOUSE,
117, PICCADILLY,
LONDON, W.1.

I have pleasure in enclosing

<u>an Annual Subscription</u>	of £
a Donation	:

to the above.

Name.....

Description of Title.....

Address

Cheques and Orders should be made payable to the National Council for Maternity and Child Welfare, and crossed Westminster Bank, Ltd.

